

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. A method for analysis of a bladder carcinoma, the method comprising:  
detecting the presence of Na,K-ATPase  $\alpha$  and/or  $\beta$  subunit in said carcinoma, wherein presence of high levels of the Na,K-ATPase  $\alpha$  subunit and low levels of  $\beta$  subunit is indicative of increased risk for malignancy.
2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said detection comprises determining the presence of a nucleic acid encoding Na,K-ATPase  $\alpha$  and/or  $\beta$  subunit.
3. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said detection comprises determining the presence of Na,K-ATPase  $\alpha$  and/or  $\beta$  subunit polypeptide.
4. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said  $\alpha$ -subunit is human  $\alpha$ 1-subunit.
5. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said  $\beta$ -subunit is human  $\beta$ 1-subunit.
6. The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of determining the ratio between expression of said  $\alpha$ -subunit, and said  $\beta$ -subunit, and normalizing said ratio to expression in a control, non-transformed cell.
7. The method according to Claim 6, wherein a normalized ratio of greater than about 3 is indicative of a higher risk of tumor recurrence.
8. The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of analyzing combined Na,K-ATPase  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  subunit expression, and wherein a level of expression that is reduced compared to a control sample is indicative of an early stage cancer.
9. A method of screening for agents that affect the malignancy of bladder carcinoma, the method comprising:  
contacting a candidate biologically agent with a Na,K-ATPase  $\alpha$  and/or  $\beta$  subunit or a cell expressing said Na,K-ATPase  $\alpha$  and/or  $\beta$  subunit and determining the effect of said agent.

10. The method according to Claim 9; wherein said biologically active agent upregulates activity of said Na,K-ATPase.

11. The method according to Claim 9, wherein said biologically active agent upregulates expression of said Na,K-ATPase  $\beta$  subunit.

12. The method according to Claim 9, wherein said biologically active agent downregulates expression of said Na,K-ATPase  $\alpha$  subunit.

13. The method according to Claim 9, wherein said biologically active agent modulates activity of said polypeptide.

14. A method of decreasing the malignancy of a bladder carcinoma, the method comprising:  
enhancing the activity of Na,K-ATPase in said carcinoma.

15. The method according to Claim 14, wherein said bladder cancer has an increased risk of recurrence by the method set forth in Claim 7.

16. The method according to Claim 15, comprising the step of increasing expression of Na,K-ATPase  $\beta$ -subunit.

17. The method according to Claim 15, comprising the step of decreasing expression of Na,K-ATPase  $\alpha$ -subunit.

18. The method according to Claim 14, wherein said method decreases activation of the epidermal growth factor receptor in said bladder cancer.